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3 July 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

1. We have discussed the questions and suggestions which you raised with me respecting the text of NIE 11-8-62, and have made the following changes, which I hope meet your points in large measure. These changes have been agreed with the agency representatives and will not need to be raised at USIB. Following references are to the revised text of the Discussion section (not the Summary and Conclusions) dated 27 June.

Page 5, para 5, line 8; now reads "...the Soviets failed to give full weight..." etc., instead of "hesitated."

Page 6, para 7, last sentence; changed to read:

"The Soviets found that they could not win lasting credibility for claims of strength which greatly exceeded their real capabilities."

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Page 6-7, para 7, first sentence; changed to read:

"Soviet thinking about military strategy for  
general war has been in major respects laggard  
by Western standards."

Page 8, para 10, last two lines; changed to read:

"... are the major new developments in Soviet  
programs for long range striking forces."

2. As for the first sentence of para 4, and para 12a,  
we have made no change. The estimates there made still seem  
to us to be the proper ones; they rest upon arguments which  
have appeared at greater length in many earlier papers on  
Soviet Foreign Policy -- most recently in NIE 11-9-62  
(2 May 1962), para 18.

3. Concerning the time required for construction of  
sites -- the text correctly states our estimate. The shortened  
times referred to by Jack Smith referred to the construction of  
complexes. Definitions of these terms, and of launchers, will  
be put in a footnote -- probably not in the Glossary, which is  
confined to terms relating to the operational characteristics  
of missiles.

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4. Preparations for an NSC briefing are well in hand.

5. Perhaps I should point out that the changes in the text which I have mentioned above are far from being the only changes made; they are the ones which arose out of your conversation with me.

ABBOT E. SMITH

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*Memorandum*TO : **The Director**DATE: **3 July 1962**FROM : **Abbot Smith**SUBJECT: **nie 11-8-62**

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This copy includes corrections, changes, and footnotes as available up to about 5 PM Tuesday. Cleanup session was still in progress at that time. Changes which were purely stylistic or editorial have not been made on this copy.